

WE CLAIM:

1. A method of making chew chips comprising:

providing a clean hide;

5 infusing the clean hide with an ingredient including at least one of a food
color and food flavor to form an infused hide;

cutting the hide to make hide pieces; and

drying the hide pieces to make chew chips.

10 2. The method of claim 1 wherein the hide pieces are made with a
plurality of internal cuts.

15 3. The method of claim 1 wherein the hide pieces are made with a
plurality of internal cuts arranged in a two-dimensional array selected to improve
the dental characteristics of the chip.

4. The method of claim 1 further comprising forming the chew chips with
wavy cross-shape.

20 5. The method of claim 1 wherein said hide is infused with a mixture
including a food flavor and a food color.

6. A method of making dental chew chips comprising:

preparing a hide by removing from the hide various undesirable materials
to make a clean hide;

infusing the clean hide with at least one of a flavor and color to make an
infused hide;

cutting the infused hide into hide pieces; and
drying the hide pieces to make chew chips.

7. The method of claim 6 further comprising providing a plurality of
internal cuts in said hide pieces.

8. The method of claim 7 wherein said internal cuts extend through the
hide pieces.

9. The method of claim 8 wherein said internal cuts are arranged in a
two-dimensional array.

10. The method of claim 7 wherein said cuts have a predetermined
shape including one of a star-shape, a cross-shape, a plus-shape and a U-
shape.

11. The method of claim 6 wherein said hide is cut before infusion.

12. A dental chew chip comprising:

a body having a predetermined shape coated with one of a flavor and a color and formed with a plurality of cuts arranged to improve the dental characteristics of the chip.

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13. The dental chew chip of claim 12 wherein said plurality of cuts are arranged in a two-dimensional array.

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14. The dental chew chip of claim 12 wherein said body has a wavy cross-section.

15. The dental chew chip of claim 12 wherein said body has a geometric shape.

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16. The dental chew chip of claim 12 wherein said body has a length in the range of between about 90 and 200 mm and a width in the range of between about 60 and 100 mm.